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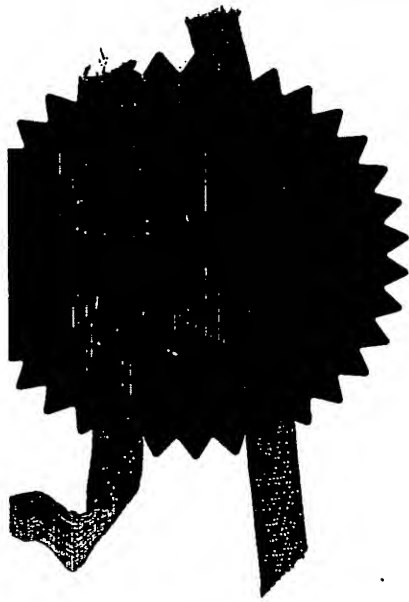
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Patents Form 1/77 18 FEB 2004

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P01/7700 0.00-0403582.0 NONE

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The Patent Office

Cardiff Road  
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1. Your reference

P346711/NBR/MEA

2. Patent application number

(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

0403582.0

18 FEB 2004

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

Hamilton Erskine Limited  
17 Moss Road, Ballygowan  
Newtownards, Co Down  
BT23 6JQ, Northern Ireland

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

8676413001

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

4. Title of the invention

"Improvements Relating to Impact-Resistant Structures and Assemblies"

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

Murgitroyd & Company

Scotland House  
165-169 Scotland Street  
Glasgow  
G5 8PL

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

1198013 1198015

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number  
(if you know it)

Date of filing  
(day / month / year)

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing  
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8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

yes

- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
  - b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
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Description

25

Claim(s)

0

Abstract

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Priority documents

-

Translations of priority documents

-

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)

-

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77)

-

Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)

-

Any other documents (please specify)

CA2389502A1

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

Murphy & Co.

Date

17 February 2002

Murgitroyd & Company

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Mark Earnshaw

0141 307 8400

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1     Improvements Relating to Impact-Resistant Structures  
2     and Assemblies

3  
4     The present invention relates to improved impact-  
5     resistant structures and assemblies such as walls  
6     and windows, including ballistic-, blast- and  
7     hurricane-resistant optically transparent composite  
8     materials involving glass.

9  
10    In relation to windows, there have been many  
11    suggestions for "bullet-proof" and "blast-proof"  
12    transparent windows and the like, either for  
13    civilian purposes such as for use in aircraft, or  
14    for military purposes, especially protection against  
15    enemy and terrorist attack. However, with the  
16    developing threat from international terrorism and  
17    events such as those of September 11 2001, many  
18    governments and major organisations are re-  
19    appraising their security requirements. High  
20    velocity weapons and better explosives are,  
21    increasingly available to terrorists and the like.  
22    Whilst traditional 'bullet-proof' glass will still

1 be required, there is now an increasing need for  
2 certain key installations, persons and equipment,  
3 especially in and around military and high  
4 governmental locations, to be protected against a  
5 higher level of threat than previously considered  
6 necessary.

7  
8 Where pure optical transmission for a window is not  
9 a necessity, there are many available materials  
10 having high strength and impact resistance.  
11 However, where optical transparency of 'normal'  
12 windows and glazing is desired, e.g. for military  
13 base houses and offices, current forms of glazing  
14 are only adequate for protection against low  
15 velocity bullets (e.g. from small arms), and low  
16 levels of blast. Most current forms of 'bullet  
17 proof' glass use several layers of glass bonded by  
18 adhesive polymer film. The energy of the projectile  
19 is dissipated over increasingly large areas of  
20 blast. To some extent the projectile can be  
21 deformed or fragmented and can be deviated from the  
22 original line of attack. The energy is directed  
23 towards a direction different to the previous path,  
24 resulting in further dissipation of energy, e.g. as  
25 shown in figure 1.

26  
27 Typical design solutions involve either glass/glass  
28 combinations or glass/polycarbonate (PC)  
29 combination. The latter offer an advantage in that  
30 they are lighter than the former, but they often  
31 have delamination problems. The effect of bonding  
32 of PC to glass is also difficult as PC has a

substantially higher rate of thermal expansion than glass. This causes high stress levels in the bonding interlayer during temperature changes which often leads to delamination.

The PC designs are often 'complex', particular as the level of protection required increases. The number of layers can cause problems with optical interference and secondary image formation because of the number of glass/PC interfaces. There may also be weight or thickness limitations preventing their use in particular applications. This is shown in the following table.

Weapon type & Calibre	Class	Design	Thickness (mm)	Weight (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Transmittance (%)
Hand Gun 9mm Luger	BR2/C1	6 <sup>2</sup> PC5 <sup>2</sup> 3-12-ESG6	35	47	77
Rifle 0.223 (5.56*45)hc	BR5/C3	8 <sup>2</sup> 6 <sup>2</sup> PC6 <sup>2</sup> 6 <sup>2</sup> PC6	39	71	64
		8 <sup>2</sup> PC8 <sup>2</sup> 6-12-6 <sup>2</sup> PC8 <sup>2</sup> 3-20-ESG6	82	95	?
Rifle 0.308 (7.62*51)	BR6/C4	8 <sup>2</sup> 8 <sup>2</sup> 6 <sup>2</sup> PC6 <sup>2</sup> 6 <sup>2</sup> PC6	49	93	?
		8 <sup>2</sup> PC8 <sup>2</sup> 3-12-10 <sup>2</sup> PC8 <sup>2</sup> 3-20-ESG6	85	102	?
Rifle 0.308 (7.62*51)hc	BR7/C5	6 <sup>2</sup> 8 <sup>2</sup> 8 <sup>2</sup> PC8-20-6 <sup>2</sup> 8 <sup>2</sup> 8 <sup>2</sup> PC8	91	143	58

1 US5665450 discusses the introduction of glass fibres  
2 and glass ribbons into transparent composites; but,  
3 as it states, the introduction of glass fibres into  
4 an optically transparent polymer destroys the  
5 transparency of the polymer.

6  
7 US5665450 considers that the introduction of glass  
8 ribbons provide a higher degree of optical clarity  
9 and lower level of distortion than glass fibres.  
10 However the photographs in US5665450 indicating the  
11 degree of optical clarity of fibre and ribbon-  
12 reinforced materials still show distortion even  
13 based on photographic reproduction of relatively  
14 indistinctive photographs.. Figure 7 shows  
15 percentage like transmission as a function of  
16 temperature and wavelength. However, it can be seen  
17 that the percentage transmission barely gets above  
18 80% at the lowest temperature and highest wavelength  
19 measured. The lowest temperature measured is at  
20 30°C, which is also not a temperature generally  
21 encountered in many countries on a regular basis. It  
22 is interesting that the percentage transmission in  
23 US5665450 was not measured at more temperate or  
24 freezing temperatures. Moreover, 80% optical  
25 transmission is very poor in comparison with the  
26 expectancy of 'normal' glass, which should be at  
27 least 90% at all temperatures. It is appreciated  
28 that the human eye can easily recognise or perceive  
29 a less than 100% optical transmission of light  
30 through a 'transparent' material.

1 In essence, there is a requirement for an optically  
2 transparent composite material having about or at  
3 least 90% optical transmission over a range of  
4 temperatures, including below 0°C, and also able to  
5 withstand high velocity ballistic projection whilst  
6 having a relatively low manufacturing cost.

7  
8 According to one aspect of the present invention,  
9 there is provided an optically transparent composite  
10 material comprising at least one glass/resin/glass  
11 lamination, wherein the resin is a PRR material  
12 having optical fibre-reinforcement therein.

13  
14 The term "PRR" refers to 'polycarbonate replacement  
15 resins', a range of materials provided by Chemetall  
16 GmbH of Frankfurt, Germany, and generally defined in  
17 their International Patent Application No WO  
18 01/38087A1. The PRR materials are a range of  
19 transparent cast resins that can consist of reactive  
20 acrylate and methacrylate monomers, acrylate and  
21 methacrylate oligomers, bonding agents and  
22 initiators. The content of WO 01/38087A1 defining  
23 these materials is incorporated herein by way of  
24 reference.

25  
26 The term "PRR" also extends to similarly provided  
27 polyurethane resins, often termed "PUR".

28  
29 A range of commonly available PRR materials are sold  
30 under the trade name Naftlolan®. The Naftlolan  
31 materials are provided in a range of different  
32 formulations to provide slightly different



1 properties. A list of product data of certain  
2 polyurethane Naftlolan materials are listed in  
3 Tables 2 and 3 hereinafter, by way of example only.  
4 PRR materials have been found to have several  
5 advantages over previously used polymer glass  
6 lamination layers. Firstly, the refractive index of  
7 PRR material overlaps very closely with many types  
8 of glass. Secondly, PRR materials have been found  
9 to expand and contract at very close rates with that  
10 of glass, thus leading to minimal if ever cracking  
11 or delamination (due to internal stress) during any  
12 thermal expansion and contraction of the composite  
13 material. Thirdly, PRR materials are relatively  
14 very easy to use and set in transparent composite  
15 materials, especially compared with processes of  
16 curing previously used types of polymers and resins.  
17 They are also useable in designs incorporating  
18 complex curves.

19  
20 Because PRR materials have a co-efficient of  
21 expansion and contraction very close to glass, these  
22 materials are usable to provide optically  
23 transparent composite materials with glass over a  
24 much greater range of temperatures than, e.g. that  
25 shown in US5665450. In particular, the present  
26 invention is designed to provide a ballistic-  
27 resistant optically transparent composite material  
28 which is usable at temperatures even as low as  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$   
29 to  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , generally  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , e.g. the temperature of  
30 windows in military installations in certain  
31 countries such as Canada, as well as temperatures  
32 going up to  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , such as the temperature of

1 windows in more tropical countries. To that extent,  
2 the difference in co-efficiency of glass, such as a  
3 normal silica-based glass, and PRR materials,  
4 deviates little over a wide temperature range.

5  
6 Table 4 hereinafter lists the refractive indices of  
7 a number of resins, including a number of the  
8 Naftolan range, indicating their close refractive  
9 index to that of glass in general.

10  
11 In general, the refractive index of the PRR  
12 materials are sufficiently close to readily  
13 available types of glass, such as a silica-based  
14 glass, that the optical transparency of the  
15 composite material of the present invention is as  
16 good as that from any current glass/glass or  
17 glass/PC laminations.

18  
19 The fibre reinforcement in the PRR layer of the  
20 composite material of the present invention can be  
21 provided by any know type of "fibre material", being  
22 for instance in the form of filaments, or in the  
23 form of particles such as beads, or even powders, as  
24 long as such fibre material wholly or very  
25 substantially has the same refractive index as glass  
26 across all or most the wavelengths of optical light.  
27 Such glass fibres are well known in the art, one  
28 such available product being sold under the trade  
29 name Tyglas by Fothergill Engineered Fabrics.

30  
31 The fibre reinforcement provide the PRR intermediate  
32 layer with improved strength because of their well

1 known ability to laterally transmit impact energy.  
2 Meanwhile, PRR materials also have improved utility  
3 as a resin to band the fibre material fillers  
4 because of their similar co-efficient of thermal  
5 expansion and adhesive strength to glass.

6  
7 In the present invention, the thickness of the glass  
8 and PRR layers, and the density of fibre  
9 reinforcement in the PRR layer, can vary according  
10 to the qualities of the final composite material  
11 desired. Cost and physical properties are factors  
12 in considering the thickness of the layers.. One  
13 known ratio of thickness is glass/PRR/glass of  
14 6/20/4mm; this is provided by way of example only.  
15 Another suitable dimension is 4/4/3mm.

16  
17 Indeed, a major facet of PRR material is that its  
18 strength is independent of its thickness. Many  
19 types of resins and adhesives only have strength for  
20 a minimal thickness, as their use is to bond  
21 together the layers (e.g. of glass) on each side,  
22 rather than provide any inherent strength of their  
23 own right. PRR has been found not only to provide  
24 good bonding to glass, but also have internal  
25 strength in its own right. The thickness of the PRR  
26 layer is therefore independent of the thickness of  
27 the glass layers either side.

28  
29 The nature of "high velocity ballistic protection"  
30 can be defined in general terms as the difference  
31 between a hand gun and a rifle, e.g. above a NATO  
32 5.56 or 7.62mm ball.

1 According to a second aspect of the present  
2 invention, there is provided a process for making an  
3 optically transparent composite material as herein  
4 before defined, comprising the steps admixing the  
5 PRR material with the optical fibre-reinforcement,  
6 and allowing the combination to cure and set between  
7 the two layers of glass.

8  
9 Further information on the curing of PRR resins may  
10 be found in WO 01/38087A1.

11  
12 Meanwhile, increasing power and sophistication of  
13 explosive-technology means that 'blast-proof'  
14 optically transparent material is also desired  
15 having increasing in situ strength and load ability.  
16 In this regard, it is now generally desired to  
17 provide blast-resistant optically transparent  
18 material having the ability to withstand a blast of  
19 500kg TNT or equivalent at 40m.

20  
21 US patent No 3953630 discloses a laminated  
22 transparent assembly suitable for use as a  
23 windscreen for a high speed vehicle wherein high  
24 strength flexible material is embedded in a plastic  
25 material, laid between two layers of glass. The  
26 flexible material extends beyond the transparent  
27 assembly, so as to be directly conjoined with the  
28 structure of the vehicle. Thus, as any blast causes  
29 deformation of the transparent assembly (as part of  
30 the impact absorption), the high strength flexible  
31 material provides a direct bond between the vehicle  
32 structure bolts and the transparent assembly,

1 hopefully thereby resisting complete separation of  
2 the two and travel of the transparent assembly into  
3 the vehicle.

4

5 However, US3953630 has three major disadvantages.  
6 Firstly, it only discloses the use of  
7 polyvinylbutyral (PVB) as the plastic layered to  
8 provide the bonding between the glass sheets and the  
9 flexible material. Manufacture of the transparent  
10 assembly in US3953630 requires an altering of the  
11 conventional laminating technique, in order to  
12 provide good bonding between a number of PVB sheets,  
13 and the glass. This requires pre-heating treatment,  
14 insertion of the full assembly including glass  
15 sheets in a closed bag to evacuate all air, followed  
16 by heating in a autoclave with high pressure. This  
17 method of manufacture has not lent itself to cost-  
18 efficient production for a number of transparent  
19 assemblies, other than for the very special uses  
20 such as our aircraft windscreens as mentioned.

21

22 Moreover, PVB in particular is a material only  
23 designed to provide good bonding between glass  
24 layers. It is typically only 1-2mm thick. Further  
25 thickness of layer is not desired, as PVB has little  
26 internal strength in its own right.

27

28 Thus, in a third aspect of the present invention,  
29 there is provided a laminated optically transparent  
30 assembly comprising at least one glass/resin/glass  
31 lamination, and having one or more high tensile  
32 strength flexible material reinforcement pieces

1 extending laterally from the resin layer to provide  
2 attachment of the assembly to a surround, wherein  
3 the resin is a PRR material.

4

5 PRR materials are those as defined herein above. As  
6 well as the greater similarity of refractive index  
7 and co-efficient of thermal expansion of PRR  
8 material to glass, the PRR-flexible material and  
9 PRR-glass bonding has been found to be superior to  
10 that of prior materials such as PVB.

11

12 Meanwhile, the assembly of the present invention  
13 still provides the degree of flexibility desired for  
14 a blast-resistant window, with the reinforced  
15 attachment of the window to the surround, such as  
16 the window rebate of a frame.

17

18 The high tensile strength flexible material may be  
19 similar to that disclosed in US3953630, i.e. woven  
20 fabric or woven glass fibre material or polyester  
21 fibre material. One such product is Kevlar®.

22

23 The flexible material could extend wholly or  
24 substantially around opposite sides of the complete  
25 transparent assembly, to provide flexibility of  
26 attachment to the surround. It could also extend as  
27 a series of discrete straps.

28

29 For the ballistic-resistant material described  
30 hereinabove, the thickness of the glass and resin  
31 layers of the blast-resistant assembly can follow  
32 those well known in the art. One suitable dimension

1 for the glass/resin/glass in 4m glass, 4mm PRR and  
2 3mm glass:

3  
4 The thickness of the PRR layer can indeed be up to  
5 40-50mm thick, as PRR has inherent strength  
6 independent of thickness as mentioned above. To  
7 that extent, the PRR material can be as thick and  
8 therefore as strong as desired, as all the strength  
9 from a blast is taken by the resin (whilst any glass  
10 shatters).

11  
12 The second disadvantage of US3953630 concerns its  
13 design. All the windows in the examples shown in  
14 US3953630 are rigidly attached to or through the  
15 window frame. If the frame fails, the window will  
16 then be unattached, and so 'fail'.

17  
18 According to a fourth aspect of the present  
19 invention, there is provided a laminated transparent  
20 assembly comprising at least one glass and one resin  
21 lamination, and having one or more high tensile  
22 strength flexible material reinforcement pieces  
23 extending laterally from the resin layer to provide  
24 attachment of the assembly to a subframe and/or  
25 wall.

26  
27 By direct attachment of the transparent assembly,  
28 generally a window, to the subframe and/or wall, any  
29 weakness in the impact-resistance of the assembly  
30 because of weakness and/or damage to the frame,  
31 generally a window frame, is avoided. This allows a

1 larger load on the transparent assembly to be  
2 supported by the subframe and/or wall.

3  
4 A third disadvantage of US3953630 is the lack of  
5 reinforcement in the window pane.

6  
7 Thus, according to a fifth aspect of the present  
8 invention, there is provided a laminated transparent  
9 assembly comprising at least one glass and at least  
10 one resin lamination, and having one or more high  
11 tensile strength flexible material reinforcement  
12 pieces extending laterally from the resin layer to  
13 provide attachment of the assembly to a surround,  
14 wherein the resin layer includes directional fibre  
15 reinforcement at or near each edge of the resin  
16 layer, and wherein the or each reinforcement piece  
17 loops around the fibre reinforcement.

18  
19 The fibre reinforcement may be any suitable  
20 reinforcement means known in the art. As it is  
21 intended only to be at or near the edges of the  
22 assembly, the reinforcement pieces need not be in  
23 any way wholly or partly transparent, and could even  
24 be hidden within any framing used for the assembly,  
25 such as a window frame.

26  
27 Preferably the fibre reinforcements are  
28 unidirectional glass fibres, whose direction follows  
29 the edge direction of the resin layer. More  
30 preferably, the fibre reinforcements are cast in the  
31 resin layer simultaneously with casting of the  
32 resin.



1 The fourth and fifth aspects of the present  
2 invention described above are not limited to the use  
3 of a PRR material as the resin, and are equally  
4 applicable to the use of other resin materials such  
5 as polycarbonate (PC) and/or PET.

6  
7 The flexible material reinforcement pieces suitable  
8 for the above aspects of the present invention may  
9 be pieces of wepping or similar as are well known in  
10 the art, and as hereinbefore described. Preferably,  
11 the pieces are of sufficient length to allow their  
12 attachment along from the glass and resin part,  
13 and/or any assembly frame involved, such as a window  
14 frame.

15  
16 According to another embodiment, some slack is  
17 allowed in the extent or length of the flexible  
18 material reinforcement pieces extending from the  
19 resin to allow some flexibility in the absorption of  
20 a shock load. This is contrary to the rigid system  
21 of attachment in US3953630.

22  
23 These aspects of the present invention provide two  
24 advantages.

25  
26 Firstly, impact loading on the laminated transparent  
27 assembly, generally a window, is passed through or  
28 across the frame to the subframe and/or wall, such  
29 that the frame can fail but the window remains  
30 attached or 'in place'. Secondly, the reinforcement  
31 pieces (preferably with some slack therein) have  
32 sufficient 'give' in them to reduce the shock

1 loading, meaning less loading is put on the subframe  
2 and/or wall.

3  
4 An example of such a laminated transparent assembly,  
5 as shown in Figure 4 herewith, has been tested by  
6 the UK Home Office against a 100kg charge at a  
7 stand-off of 21m, and has withstood the blast  
8 successfully.

9  
10 In the present invention, the ability to provide a  
11 PRR layer of any thickness provides a further  
12 benefit.

13  
14 Thus, according to a sixth aspect of the present  
15 invention, there is provided a blast-resistant  
16 composite material comprising at least one layer of  
17 PRR material having at least one reinforcement piece  
18 extending wholly or substantially across the PRR  
19 layer.

20  
21 Preferably, the reinforcement piece is a strip or  
22 bars or other reinforcement means. There is  
23 preferably a series of such pieces, more preferably  
24 forming a grid or grid-like structure wholly or  
25 substantially across the composite material. An  
26 example is shown in Figure 5 herewith.

27  
28 The PRR material is that as defined hereinabove.  
29 The reinforcement piece can be one or more of woven  
30 roving, webbing, webbing material or even metal  
31 material. The use of a metallic grid provides the  
32 same effect as a "muntin" system which uses metallic

1 reinforcement grid alongside a glazing panel, but  
2 not actually therein. The present invention  
3 therefore achieves the same effect and strength as a  
4 muntin system, but as a one piece assembly, thereby  
5 significantly reducing assembly and installation.  
6

7 The blast-resistance is achieved because the PRR  
8 layer can be any thickness desired, e.g. up to 40-  
9 50mm, which is able to accommodate reinforcement  
10 pieces, whereas previous resins were not able to  
11 achieve such thickness, and thereby accommodate  
12 reinforcement therein.  
13

14 The benefit of achieving reinforcement within the  
15 PRR material is that each 'section' created by the  
16 reinforcement piece or pieces, e.g. each small  
17 section within the grid, can be regarded as having  
18 its own frame, as thus regarded as a separate  
19 section in terms of analysis against blast. As is  
20 well known in the art, the blast-resistance of a  
21 small section is greater than that of a large  
22 section. By dividing the composite panel into a  
23 number of small sections, significant blast-  
24 resistance is achieved.  
25

26 It is noted that the optical transparency of blast-  
27 resistant panels using for example the muntin system  
28 is not as important as that described for other  
29 aspects of the present invention, so that the  
30 comparative refractive index is not as important as  
31 that as described above in relation to other aspects  
32 of the present invention.

1 Turning to impact-resistance structures, a further  
2 important feature of any impact-resistant window is  
3 ensuring that the surrounding frame and even the  
4 surrounding wall are sufficiently strong to support  
5 the window and survive the impact such as a  
6 explosive blast. Any system with little or no  
7 'give' i.e. a rigid system, suffers much higher  
8 stresses the one which allows some flexibility,  
9 elasticity or give within it. Even apparently rigid  
10 structures such as walls will flex under loading.

11  
12 The present invention therefore also provides a  
13 surface-reinforcement assembly designed to allow  
14 flexibility to a surface such as a wall, floor or  
15 ceiling or the like, whilst also reinforcing its  
16 strength.

17  
18 Thus, according to a seventh aspect of the present  
19 invention, there is provided a wall-reinforcement  
20 assembly for a wall having an adjacent floor and  
21 ceiling, comprising a first wall-adjacent layer  
22 formed wholly or substantially of fibre reinforced  
23 composite flexible material, and a second layer  
24 comprising one or more high tensile strength  
25 flexible material reinforcement pieces, wherein at  
26 least one of said reinforcement pieces is secured to  
27 the floor and the ceiling.

28  
29 The terms "wall", "floor" and "ceiling" are  
30 interchangeable in the sense that the wall-  
31 reinforcement assembly is usable on a floor, wall or  
32 ceiling, having appropriate other structures.

1 therearound to form an internal part of a building  
2 or the like. The reinforcement pieces are  
3 preferably, secured to a 'strong' floor, such as  
4 made of concrete, and a 'strong' part of a ceiling  
5 such as a reinforced concrete ring beam or steel I-  
6 section now commonly used in building construction,  
7 more preferably through set fixing points.

8  
9 The first composite layer is preferably a sheet of  
10 glass fibre reinforced plastic or kevlar material,  
11 either loose or in resin, which is able to extend  
12 across the area of the wall to be reinforced. In  
13 particular, this layer provides a layer of  
14 protection from small fragments being dislodged by  
15 any blast or other impact causing flexing of the  
16 wall. The thickness of this layer can be varied to  
17 bolster the physical attack and ballistic protection  
18 of the wall.

19  
20 The second layer preferably comprises a series of  
21 parallel straps, such as webbing straps. The  
22 reinforcement pieces could run horizontally, as well  
23 as vertically, or indeed both. The material of the  
24 reinforcement pieces is selected for its strength  
25 and ability to stretch under shock loading.

26  
27 The assembly could include a third layer adapted to  
28 provide a suitable internal finished layer, as well  
29 as possibly including the appropriate level of  
30 installation, fire resistance, etc. and internal  
31 fittings such as electrical sockets.

1 The assembly could be retrofitted to an existing  
2 wall or other surface, or included as part of a  
3 purposed built design.  
4

5 The assembly could be formed to be the size of the  
6 wall or other surface on which it is to be located,  
7 or be formed in modular form, e.g. made in panels,  
8 which are joined together to make the desired or  
9 necessary size in-situ.  
10

11 In general, the present invention provides the  
12 ability to consider the impact-resistance across a  
13 complete portion of a building, especially a wall  
14 which can include one or more windows, doors or  
15 other openings.  
16

17 Thus, according to an eighth aspect of the present  
18 invention, there is provided an impact-resistant  
19 system comprising the conjunction or combination of  
20 two or more aspects of the present invention  
21 hereinbefore defined.  
22

23 An example of the system includes a wall-  
24 reinforcement assembly as hereinbefore described, in  
25 combination with a laminated transparent assembly as  
26 hereinbefore described in a form of a window,  
27 wherein the flexible material reinforcement pieces  
28 of the assembly combine with the flexible material  
29 reinforcement pieces of the window assembly. In  
30 this case, the window reinforcements are attached to  
31 the frame.  
32

1 In a second example, the material reinforcement  
2 pieces of a wall reinforcement assembly as  
3 hereinbefore described extend internally through a  
4 window assembly as hereinbefore described, such that  
5 the reinforcement pieces are secured by the cast  
6 resin in the window, and are of sufficient length to  
7 enable the pieces to be secured at the fixing points  
8 at the top and bottom of the wall being reinforced  
9 by the assembly. This design also allows for  
10 securing non-glass windows such as polycarbonate,  
11 which may be desired where the emergency or  
12 hazardous nature of the work conditions are not  
13 suitable for handling glass.

14

15 It will be recognised by those skilled in the art  
16 the composite materials and assemblies could also be  
17 used to provide hurricane or the like resistance,  
18 and thus the present invention is extended thereto.  
19 The term "impact" as used herein refers to any type  
20 of severe blow such as an explosion, bullet, wind,  
21 etc. Blast-resistance generally relates to  
22 resistance against an explosion.

23

24 Embodiments of the present invention will now be  
25 described by way of example only and with reference  
26 to the accompanying drawings in which:

27

28 Figure 1 is schematic cross-sectional view of the  
29 impact of a projectile against a current multi-glass  
30 laminated windowpane;

31

1 Figure 2 is a cross-sectional view of a optically  
2 transparent composite material according to one  
3 embodiment of the present invention;

4  
5 Figure 3 is a laminated optically transparent  
6 assembly according to a second embodiment of the  
7 present invention;

8  
9 Figure 4 is a perspective photograph of a laminated  
10 optically transparent assembly according to a third  
11 embodiment of the present invention;

12  
13 Figure 5 is a schematic front view of a reinforced  
14 laminated optically transparent assembly according  
15 to a forth embodiment of the present invention;

16  
17 Figure 6 is a cross-sectional part view of a  
18 laminated optically transparent assembly according  
19 to a fifth embodiment of the present invention  
20 attached to a wall and subframe;

21  
22 Figure 7 is a perspective photographic view of a  
23 wall-reinforcement assembly according to a sixth  
24 embodiment of the present invention; and

25  
26 Figure 8 is a schematic front view of a laminated  
27 optically transparent assembly according to an  
28 eighth embodiment of the present invention.

29  
30 As previously mentioned, Figure 1 shows how the  
31 energy of a projectile is dissipated over  
32 increasingly large areas of glass of a known glass



1 PC lamination pane, leading to a large area of glass  
2 shattered from the left hand side.

3

4 Figure 2 shows a optically transparent composite  
5 material 2 comprising a glass/resin/glass  
6 lamination. Within the PRR resin layer 4 are a  
7 series of traditional fibre glass woven rovings 6.

8

9 To produce the material, the rovings 6 were secured  
10 between two panes of glass 8, and the PRR resin 4  
11 was injected into the cavity. The resin 4 flows up  
12 the inside of the glass 8 and disperses through the  
13 woven roving 6, wetting the fibres and forming an  
14 excellent bond.

15

16 Figure 3 shows a blast-resistant assembly 10 mounted  
17 to a wall 12. Between the two panes of glass 14, a  
18 2 inch wide unidirectional glass fibre woven roving  
19 16 was bonded into the same PRR resin 18 as  
20 mentioned above. The complete assembly 10 was  
21 located in the rebate of a window frame 20, and the  
22 roving reinforcement material 16 fixed to the frame  
23 20 by adhesive, and also by means of a lateral bolt  
24 22.

25

26 The assembly 10 was tested in a Hannsfield 20k-w  
27 tensometer. Loads in excess of 8000N were applied  
28 before the fibre woven 16 broke. Considerably  
29 greater loads could be achieved with the use of  
30 thicker fibres or different types of fibres.

31

1     Figure 4 shows a similar blast-resistant window  
2     assembly 30 as that partly shown in Figure 3, but  
3     wherein the PRR resin intermediate layer includes a  
4     complete loop of unidirectional glass fibre 32  
5     around the perimeter of the resin and glass  
6     lamination and inside two panes of glass. Lengths  
7     of webbing material 34 acting as high tensile  
8     strength flexible material reinforcement pieces are  
9     wrapped around the loop of unidirectional glass  
10    fibre 32, and the loose ends of the webbing material  
11    34 extend outside the glass and resin lamination.  
12    Thus, the lengths of webbing material 34 are bonded  
13    into the resin layer, and are also wrapped around  
14    the unidirectional glass fibre 32 that is bonded  
15    into the resin. The loose ends of the webbing  
16    material 34 are then secured by a bolt 38 directly  
17    to a subframe or wall 36 as shown in figure 6.

18  
19    The arrangement in Figure 6 means that the  
20    glass/resin lamination is directly secured in place  
21    by the webbing material 34 rather than by any  
22    securement into a window frame or rebate. This  
23    allows for the use of different types of webbing or  
24    other materials as the reinforcement pieces to  
25    ensure the correct strength as required and to  
26    absorb an appropriate shock load.

27  
28    The length of webbing material 34 can also be  
29    adjusted to allow some slack, which further assists  
30    with the absorption of a shock load. In this way,  
31    failure of the window frame or rebate does not  
32    result in detachment of the window from the wall.

1 Moreover, the loading against the window is passed  
2 through to the subframe or wall 36.

3  
4 Figure 5 is schematic front view of a blast-  
5 resistant composite material for a window or similar  
6 wherein a series of horizontal and vertical  
7 reinforcement webbing straps 38 extend through the  
8 intermediate resin layer to form a net or a grid  
9 pattern. The webbing pieces 38 could extend further  
10 so as to be part of the webbing arrangement shown in  
11 Figure 7.

12  
13 Figure 7 shows a wall-reinforcement assembly  
14 comprising a first wall-adjacent layer 40 formed  
15 from glass fibre reinforced plastic material. This  
16 layer of 40 provides protection from small fragments  
17 being dislodged from the wall following any blast  
18 impact. The thickness of the layer could be varied  
19 improve to the physical attack and ballistic  
20 protection of the wall. A second layer 42 comprises  
21 a series of vertical webbing straps running between  
22 fixing points in the floor 44 and ceiling 46. Once  
23 again the webbing straps act as high tensile  
24 strength flexible material reinforcement pieces, and  
25 their actual material and width can be chosen to  
26 achieve the correct balance of strength and  
27 elasticity/stretch for a shock loading.

28  
29 The arrangement shown in Figure 7 was able to resist  
30 a charge of 500kg of TNT equivalent at a distance of  
31 17.5m from a wall of brick and block with a cavity  
32 foam insulation, similar to 'standard' house-wall

1 construction in the UK. That is, the blast did not  
2 puncture the reinforcement assembly.

3  
4 Figure 8 shows a window assembly similar to that  
5 shown in Figures 3 and 4, wherein the reinforcement  
6 piece 50 extending laterally from the resin layer  
7 has a series of holes, through which suitable  
8 reinforcement pieces such as webbing straps 52 can  
9 be entered, so as for attachment to a wall or  
10 subframe, or also to be the reinforcement pieces for  
11 use in Figure 7. That is, the wall-reinforcement  
12 assembly in Figure 7 is able to accommodate opening  
13 such as windows and doors, and the reinforcement  
14 pieces can be conjoined or interlinked or formed as  
15 one, so as to provide the strongest arrangement for  
16 strength and elasticity across the whole wall  
17 surface.

18  
19 The present invention provides ballistic-resistant  
20 and blast-resistant assemblies providing protection  
21 against much higher levels of protection from high  
22 velocity weapons and explosives than currently known  
23 with current forms of wall and glazing. Production  
24 of the assemblies is also comparatively simple and  
25 cost effective compared to previous types of similar  
26 assemblies, which used less suitable polymers and  
27 plastic material.

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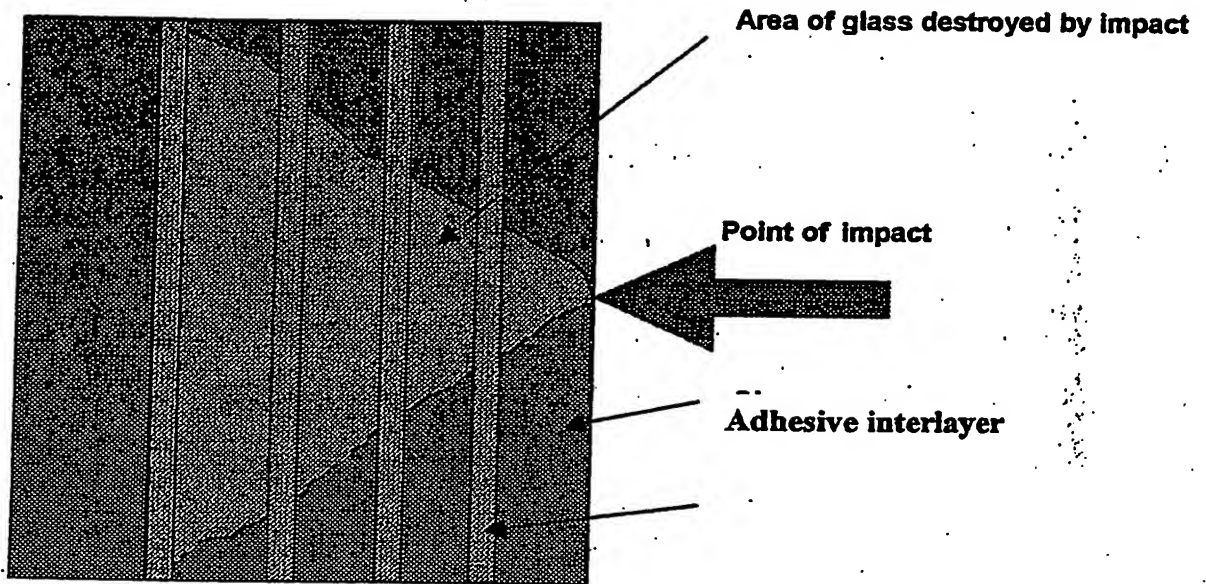


Fig 1

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Fig 2

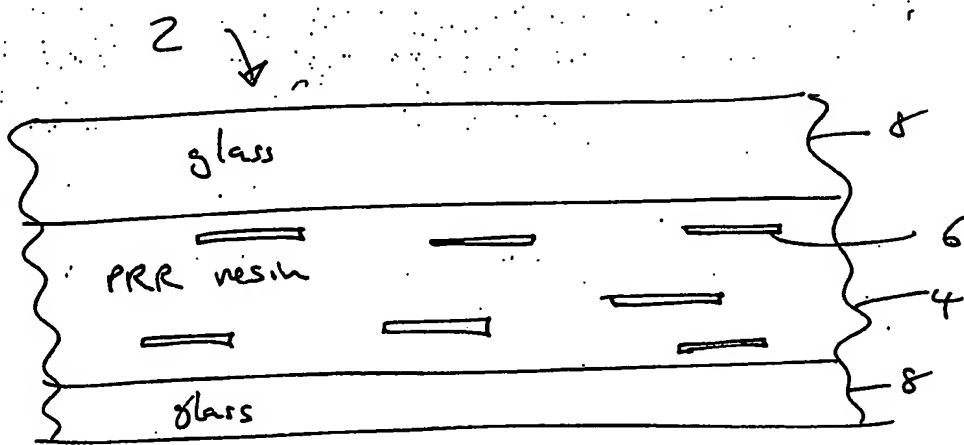


Fig 5

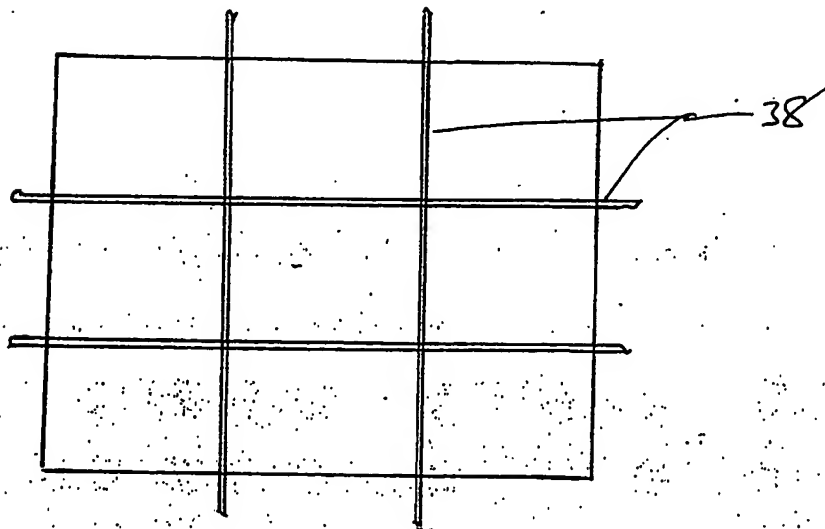


Fig 3

10

Fig

FIBRE ATTACHMENT CAN  
BE FIRED TO FRAME BY  
ADHESIVE / MECHANICAL MEANS  
ORIENTATION OF BOLT / ADHESIVE  
CAN BE IN ANY REQUIRED  
DIRECTION

22

16

SEMI-CONDUCTOR  
WITH ELECTROMAGNETIC  
SETTER

REBATE 20

Glass 14

FIBRE

RR-resin 18

Glass 14

4

12

MOUNTING / WARE

FOR SEALING FRAME

Rebate of window frame, 20

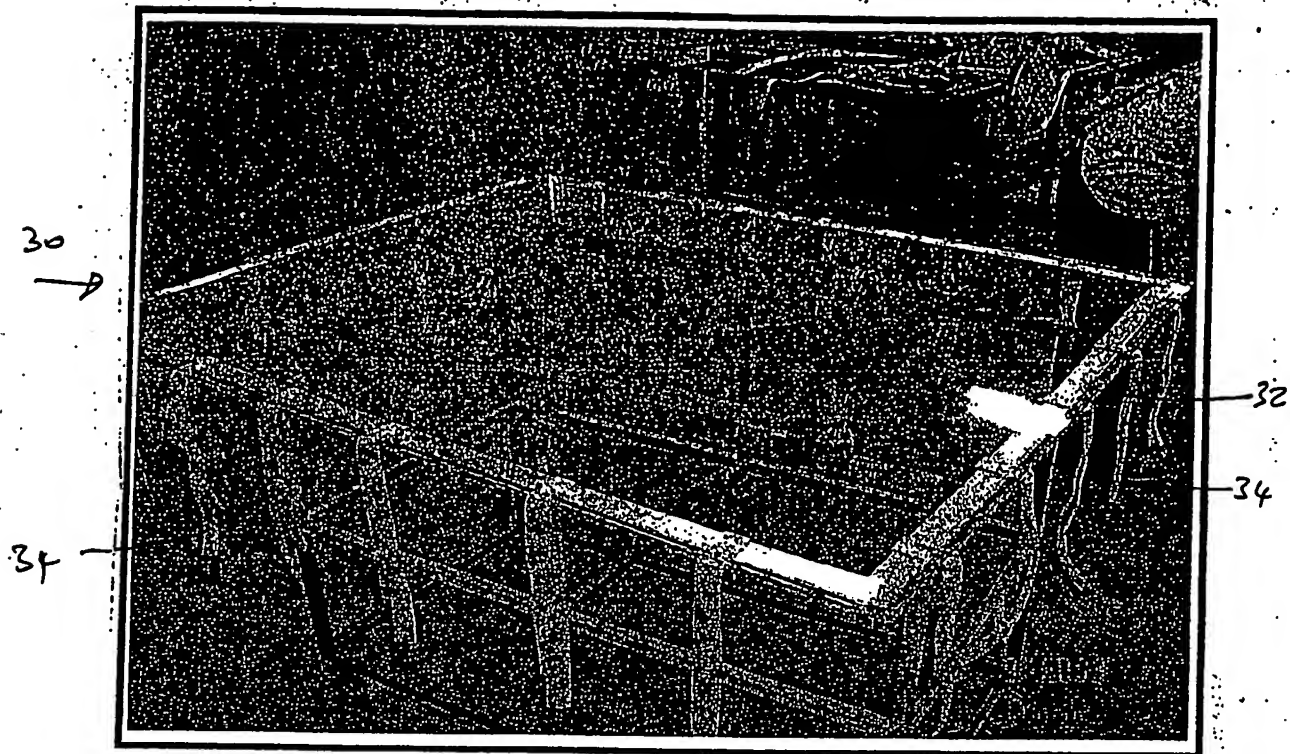
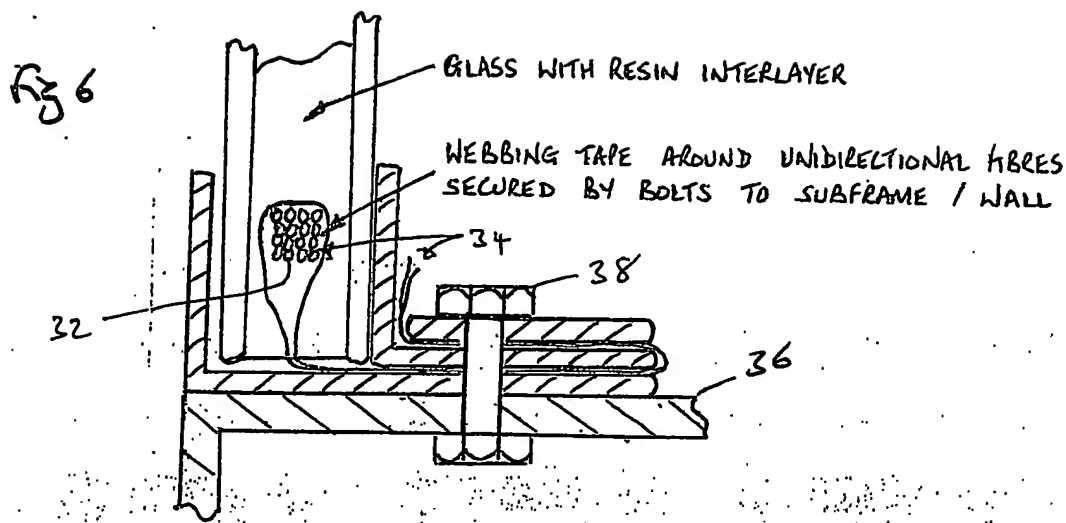


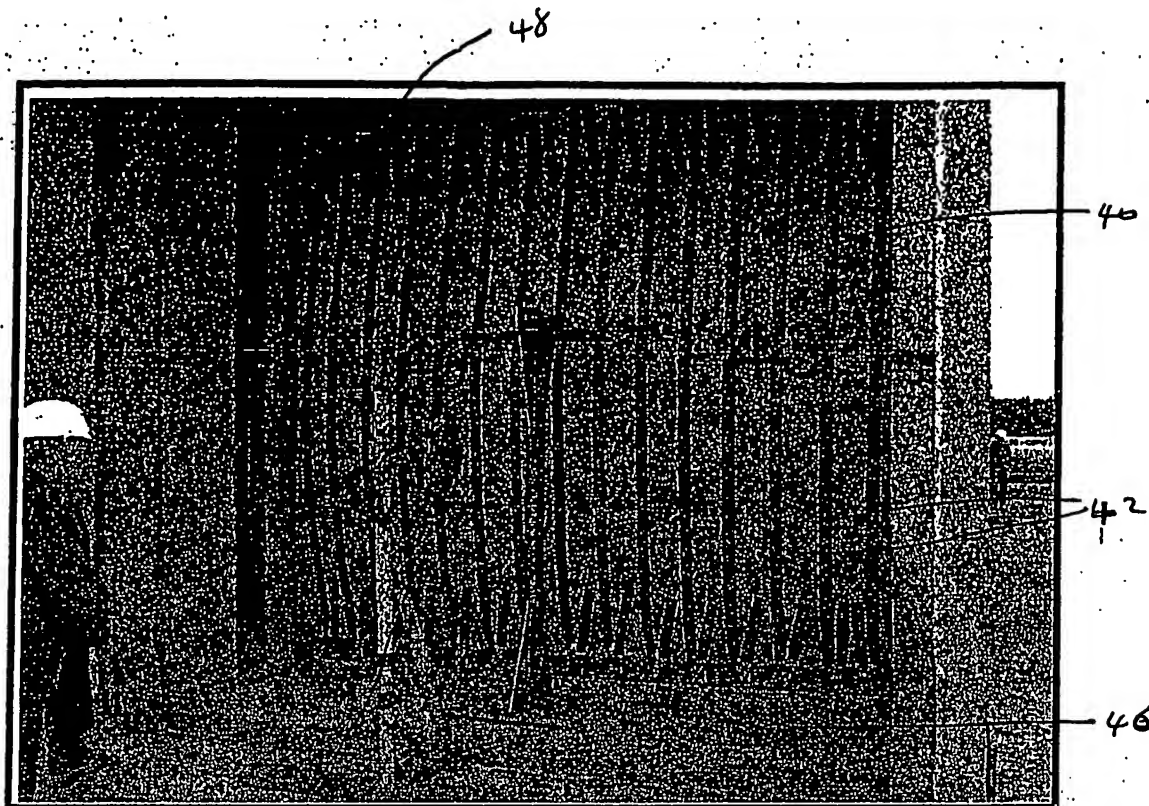
Fig 4





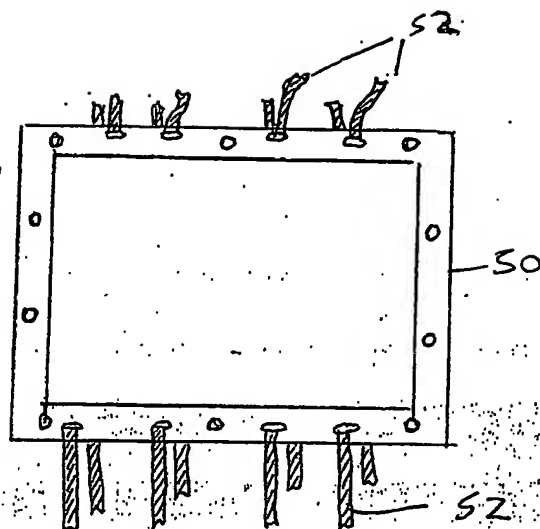
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Fig 7



Charge 500kg at 17.5 m,

Fig 8



# Product Data of Polyurethane Composite Materials

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Physical Properties	Naifolan PU-A 700 / PU-B 304	Naifolan PU-A 206 / PU-B 606	Naifolan VP-PA 0911 / VP-PB 2110	Naifolan VP-PA 1011 / VP-PB 2110	Naifolan VP-PA 2601 / VP-PB 2110	Naifolan VP-PA 0511 / VP-PB 2010	Standard
Density							
Flex							
Elon							
Change possible in one layer							
Strength & Stiffness							
Tensile strength [Mpa]	16	16	18	18	5	2.1	DIN 53 504
5% module [Mpa]	5	1.2	15	6	1.2	0.7	DIN 53 504
0% module [Mpa]	6	1.7	14	7	1.8	1.2	DIN 53 504
100% module [Mpa]	8	2.5	15.5	10	3.2	1.8	DIN 53 504
Elongation at break [%]	180	360	150	160	150	120	DIN 53 504
Compressive strength							
Compressive modulus							
Compressive yield point							
Torsional strength							
Torsional modulus (also called modulus of elasticity)							DIN EN ISO 527
Torsional yield point							
In-plane shear strength							
In-plane shear modulus							
Toughness							
Charlton with loading rate							
Hardness							
Shore A hardness	80	73	85	80	65	65	DIN 53 505
Adhesion to glass							
Bond shear strength							
Compression shear strength [Mpa] 4/2/4 mm glass/ glass	18	7.5	20	20	10	2.5	
Thermal							
Thermal coefficient of expansion							
Thermal conductivity							
Specific heat capacity (at 20 °C)							
Resistance							
Resistance							
Resistivity							
Temperature coefficient of resistance							

These values are for guidance only and do not represent a specification.

# Product Data of Polyurethan Composite Materials

Physical Properties							
Naftolan PU-A 700 / PU-B 304	Naftolan PU-A 206 / PU-B 606	Naftolan VP-PA 0911 / VP-PB 2110	Naftolan VP-PA 1011 / VP-PB 2110	Naftolan VP-PA 2601 / VP-PB 2110	Naftolan VP-PA 0511 / VP-PB 2910	Standard	
Flammability							
Self-ignition point							
Self-ignition point							
Smoke emission							
Critical Oxygen Index (COI) (minimum oxygen fraction in oxygen-nitrogen mixture which will support steady state combustion of the plastic). Plastics with COI >0.21 are self extinguishing							
Chemical Resistance							
Acids							
Alkalis							
Organic solvents							
Weatherability/degradation							
Welding - temp cycling test							
UV absorption							
Discoloration of water							
Additional Data							
Viscosity (23°C) [mPa.s]							
Component A							
Viscosity (23°C) [mPa.s]							
Component B							
Viscosity (23°C) [mPa.s]							
Mixture							
Density weight (23°C) [g/cm³]							
Component A liquid							
Density weight (23°C) [g/cm³]							
Component B liquid							
Density weight (23°C) [g/cm³]							
Mixture liquid							
Volume Shrinkage [%]							
Processing time (23°C) [min]							
Curing time(23°C) [h]							
Storage time before delivery (18°C to 23 °C) [d]							
Shore A hardness after 1 day (cured resin) DIN							
Shore A hardness after 7 days (cured resin)							
Thermal conductivity (DIN 52612) [W/(m².K)]							
Transmittance (DIN 67507) (assembly 6/8/4mm) [%]							
Transmittance (DIN 67507) (assembly 6/15/4mm) [%]							
Transmittance (DIN 67507) (assembly 6/20/4mm) [%]							

These values are for guidance only and do not represent a specification.

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Table 4

# Refractive Index liquid / cured Resins (at 20°C)

Resin	n <sub>D20</sub> liquid	n <sub>D20</sub> cured
UV 11	1,4362	-
UV 22	1,4417	-
UV 33	1,4396	1,4813
ICE-Gießharz EP 1309-103	1,4434	-
UV 203	1,4370	-
S 700 M	1,4299	1,4713
S 696 M	1,4272	-
Naftolan VP-PA 0511	1,4542	-
Naftolan VP-PA 1011	1,4568	-
Naftolan PU-A 206	1,4540	1,4844*
Naftolan VP-PB 2110	1,4169	-
Naftolan PU-B 606	1,4777	-
Naftolan VP-PA 2601	1,4553	-
Naftolan PU-A 700	-	-
Naftolan PU-B 304	1,4739	-

\* cured with corresponding B component

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